



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Fabry, Christian, et al. :
Serial No. 09/830,527 : Art Unit: 1651
Filing Date: April 26, 2001 : Examiner: Afremova, Vera
Attorney Docket No. P-1027 : Confirmation No.: 9706
For: MICROBIAL ACTIVATION OF :
LAYER SILICATES :
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Background

The USPTO issued a final rejection of the above-referenced application in an Office Action dated June 7, 2004. This Preliminary Amendment is filed with this RCE in response to that Office Action. The applicants request that the amended claims be reviewed and allowed.